

NGACG Flower Show 2014

Educational Speakers and Topics

All programs meet in the National Arboretum classroom located in the Visitor Center

Saturday, October 18, 1:00 pm:

Plant Collecting in the Black Hills Region

Scott Aker, Gardens Unit Leader, U.S. National Arboretum

The center of North America experiences some of the most extreme growing conditions and supports plants that withstand extremes of temperature and precipitation. The Black Hills region has a diversity of landscapes—badlands, prairies, and forests—that hold a treasure of plants that have potential for use on green roofs and in our gardens. Along with a travelogue of the flora of these areas, the processes of documentation, collection, and evaluation will be explored.

Saturday, October 18, 3:00 pm:

Native or Exotic Plants for your Garden?

Matthew H. Greenstone, Research Entomologist, Invasive Insect Biocontrol & Behavior Laboratory

A new entomological research project at the Arboretum asks whether it matters. Learn about this project that compares the impact of native and exotic plant complexes on pest and natural enemy populations in managed urban landscapes.

Sunday, October 19, 1:00 pm:

Grass Roots: The Inside Story

Geoffrey Rinehart, Program Coordinator, *Grass Roots Exhibit*

Join Geoff Rinehart for a tour of the Arboretum's newest exhibit, *Grass Roots*. Learn about the latest sustainable lawn management practices and the USDA'S turf research to develop grasses that require less water and fertilizer. The exhibit includes a green roof, rain garden, and over 40 different ornamental grasses on display.

Sunday, October 19, 3:00 pm:

National Arboretum Camellias

Carole Bordelon, Supervisory Horticulturist and Camellia Collection Curator

The Arboretum's remarkable Camellia collection was begun in 1949 with a gift of 100 *Camellia sasanqua* plants from the Garden Club of America. The plants thrived and the Arboretum broadened the collection by adding additional *sasanqua* and *japonica* cultivars. A successful and long-running breeding program was begun and resulted in the release of many of today's well-known cold-hardy camellias. Learn how the results of the research program have impacted today's camellias.